GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:155
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2005
DECLINE IN WATER LEVEL
Shakya Shri Raghuraj Singh;Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ground water level in many parts of the country is gradually going down;

(b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise;

(c) whether this is due to over-drawls of ground water;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to meet the ground water shortage?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.155 FOR REPLY ON 14.03.2005 REGARDING DECLINE IN WATER LEVEL

A long-term analysis of ground water levels by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, during the years 1995-2004, indicates decline in ground water levels in some parts of districts of various States of the country. The names of these States/districts having pockets of declining water level in the last 10 years (1995-2004) are given in Annexure. The main reasons for decline in ground water level are rapid pace of urbanization, increasing demand for agricultural, industrial and domestic purposes, change in cropping pattern, excessive withdrawals of ground water, poor rainfall etc.

Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to formulate plans for augmenting water resources. The CGWB has prepared a report entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water", which envisages recharge of 36453 Million Cubic Meter volume of surplus monsoon runoff, through construction of 39.25 lakhs artificial recharge and roof top rain water harvesting structures. The CGWB has implemented a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country during the VIII & IX Five Year Plans. The CGWB has also proposed a Scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 175 crores for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water and Rainwater Harvesting during the remaining part of the X Five Year Plan.

In addition to the above, following steps have been taken by the Union Government, States, Local bodies to meet the ground water shortage:-

(i) Circulation of a Model Bill in the year 1970 which was re- circulated in 1992 and again in 1996 to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development. A revised Model Bill, 2005 to regulate and control the development and management of ground water has been again circulated to all the States/Union Territories.

(ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of ground water levels.

(iii) Central Ministries/Departments of Railways, Defence, Posts, Telecommunications, Central Public Works Department and National Highways Authority of India have been requested to provide roof top rain water harvesting structures in the buildings under their control.

(iv) States/UTs have been requested to provide water harvesting structures in buildings under their administrative control.

(v) All the States/Union Territories have been requested for advising the local bodies in their respective States/Union Territories to allow rebate in property tax to persons, who adopt roof top rainwater harvesting in their premises.

(vi) CGWB has provided technical guidance on rain water harvesting to around 1800 agencies, including State Government agencies, educational institutions, private entrepreneurs and individuals.

(vii) The Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has notified 11 critical areas on consideration of over-exploitation of ground water resources and 32 over-exploited areas for registration of ground water structures.

(viii) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (www.cgwb.net) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.

(ix) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.

(x) Water conservation campaign has been launched keeping in view the various target groups like youth and children, women, farmers and villagers, policy and opinion makers. Publicity through print media, telecasting of spots on the television, broadcasting messages on radio, holding of seminars, workshops, conferences etc., have been undertaken for the purpose.

(xi) The Government of Gujarat has banned new tubewells in 54 talukas where there is over-exploitation of ground water. Metropolitan areas have notified rules under which no new building plan is approved without corresponding rain water harvesting structure and Department of Roads & Buildings has been directed to ensure that all major Government constructions have adequate rain water harvesting facilities.

(xii) The Government of Maharashtra has adopted a resolution to promote the scheme on rain water harvesting which provides that all houses should have provision for rain water harvesting without which house construction plan should not be sanctioned.

(xiii) The Government of Tamil Nadu has launched the implementation of rain water harvesting scheme on a massive scale in all Government buildings, private houses/Institutions and commercial buildings in urban and rural areas.

(xiv) The Government of Nagaland has made provision of roof top rain water harvesting compulsory for all new Government buildings.

(xv) The Government of NCT of Delhi has issued instructions for setting up rain water harvesting systems in Government buildings. Moreover, the Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation has amended Building Bye-laws, 1983, making provision for water harvesting through storing of water run-off including rain water in all new buildings on plots of 100 square meters and above in Delhi mandatory.

(xvi) The Government of Rajasthan has made it compulsory for all State buildings on plots measuring more than 500 sq.mts. to adopt rain water harvesting for recharging the ground water aquifers.

(xvii) The Government of Karnataka has initiated action to amend building bye-laws in major cities having population of more than 20 lakh to make rain water harvesting mandatory.

(xviii) The Government of Haryana has amended the Haryana Municipal Building Bye-laws 1982, to incorporate the provision of roof top rain water harvesting compulsory.

(xix) The Government of Kerala has enacted legislation making roof top rain water harvesting mandatory in all new constructions in municipal areas.

(xx) The Government of West Bengal has taken up promotion of roof top rain water harvesting in Government buildings in seven priority districts.

(xxi) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has issued circular to all local bodies making roof top rain water harvesting mandatory in all new constructions in municipal areas.

(xxii) The Government of Meghalaya has instructed the concerned Department to provide funds under their respective annual plan for construction of roof top rain water harvesting structures in Government buildings.

(xxiii) The Administration of Daman & Diu has issued instruction to the local PWD for construction of roof top rain water harvesting structures and accordingly, PWD has initiated action. It has also advised the local bodies such as Municipality and District Panchayat to make provision for construction of roof top rain water harvesting structures.

ANNEXURE

(REFERENCE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 155 DATED 14.03.2005)

Name of Districts showing fall of water level (in parts) in last 10 years (1995-2004) during Pre-Monsoon period

Sl. No.	State/ Union	Districts showing declining trends (more than 20 cm per year)

		Territory
1	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad, Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahbubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam, Ranga Reddy, Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Warangal, West Godavari
2	Assam	Jorhat, Nagaon, Sonitpur
3	Bihar	Bhagalpur, East Champaran, Munger, Muzaffarpur, Navada, Saharsa, Saran,
4	Chhattisgarh	Bastar, Bilaspur, Dhamtari, Durg, Janjgir-champa, Kanker, Kawardah, Koriya, Mahasamund, Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Surguja
5	Delhi	New Delhi, North West, South, South West,
6	Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banashkantha, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Dangs, Gandhinagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Panchmahal, Rajkot, Sabarkantha, Surat, Surendranagar, Vadodara, Valsad
7	Haryana	Ambala, Bhiwani, Faridabad, Fatehabad, Gurgaon, Hissar, Jhajjar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Mahendragarh, Panipat, Rewari, Rohtak, Sirsa, Sonipat
8	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra, Kullu, Mandi, Sirmur, Solan, Una
9	Jharkhand	Dhanbad, Dumka, Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, Pacchim Singhbhum, Palamu, Purvi Singhbhum, Ranchi
10	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu, Kathua, Rajouri, Udhampur
11	Karnataka	Bagalkot, Bangalore, Belgaum, Bellary, Bidar, Bijapur, Chamrajnagar, Chikmagalur, Chitradurga, Coorg, Dakshin Kannada, Dharwad, Gadag, Gulbarga, Hassan, Haveri, Kolar, Koppal, Mandya, Mysore, Raichur, Shimoga, Tumkur, Uddupi, Uttar Kannada
12	Kerala	Idduki, Kanoor, Kasargod, Kollam, Kottayam, Mallapuram, Palakkad, Thiruvananthapuram, Thrissur, Wayanad
13	Madhya Pradesh	Barwani, Balaghat, Betul, Bhind, Bhopal, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Damoh, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Dindhori, Guna, Gwalior, Harda, Hoshangabad, Indore, Jabalpur, Jhabua, Katni, Khandwa, Mandsaur, Morena, Mandla, Narsinghpur, Neemuch, Panna, Raisen, Rajgarh, Ratlam, Rewa, Sagar, Satna, Sehore, Seoni, Shahdol, Shajapur, Sheopur, Shivpuri, Sidhi, Tikamgarh, Ujjain, Umaria, Vidisha, West Nimar
14	Maharashtra	Ahmadnagar, Akola, Amravati, Aurangabad, Beed, Bhandara, Buldana, Chandrapur, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Gondia, Hingoli, Jalgaon, Jalna, Kolhapur, Latur, Mumbai, Nagpur, Nanded, Nandurbar, Nashik, Osmanabad, Parbhani, Pune, Raigad, Ratnagiri, Sangli, Satara, Sindhudurg, Solapur, Thane, Wardha, Washim,Yavatmal
15	Orissa	Angul, Baleshwar, Bargarh, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Ganjam, Jajpur, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Koraput, Kendujhaar, Mayurbhanj, Nawapara, Phulbani, Puri, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Sundargarh
16	Punjab	Amritsar, Bhatinda, Faridkot, Fatehgarh, Ferozepur, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Karpurthala, Ludhiana, Mansa, Moga, Nawashahar, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur
17	Rajasthan	Ajmer, Alwar, Banswara, Baran, Barmer, Bharatpur, Bhilwara, Bikaner, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Churu, Dausa, Dholpur, Dungarpur, Hanumangarh, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhalwar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Karauli, Kota, Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamand, Sawaimadhopur, Sikar, Sirohi, Tonk, Udaipur
18	Tamil Nadu	Chennai, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Erode, Kancheepuram, Kanyakumari, Karaikal, Karur, Madurai, Namakkal, Nilgiri, Perambalur, Ramanathapuram, Salem, Sivaganga, Thanjavur, Theni, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli, Thiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Tuticorin, Vellore, Vellupuram, Virudhanagar
19	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Auraiya, Azamgarh, Badaun, Baghpat, Ballia, Bijnor, Chandauli, Chitrakoot, Deoria, Etawah, Fatehpur, Gautam

		Budh Nagar, Ghaziabad, Gonda, Hamirpur, Hathras, Jalaun, Jhansi, Kanpur Dehat, kanpur Nagar, Lakhimpur Kheri, Lalitpur, Lucknow, Mahoba, Mathura, Meerut, Mirzapur, Pratapgarh, Saharanpur, Sitapur, Sultanpur, Unnao
20	Uttaranchal	Dehradun, Haridwar
21	West Bengal	Bankura, Bardhaman, Birbhum, Haora, Hugli, East Medinipur, Malda, Murshidabad, Puruliya, South Twenty four Parganas, West Medinipur
22	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Dadra & Nagar Haveli
23	Pondicherry	Pondicherry